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REMARKS

Claims 1-7, 9-13, and 15 -19 are pending in this application. Claims 4, 9-10, 13, 15, and 17 are rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Heberling et al, U.S. Patent 5,540,056 ("Heberling"). Claims 4, 9-11, 13, 15, and 17 - 18 are rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Keller et al, U.S. Patent 6,351,947 ("Keller"). Claims 4, 9-11, 13, 15, and 17 - 19 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Keller in view of Bibler et al, U.S. Patent 6,871,501 ("Bibler") or North et al, U.S. Patent 6,546,733 ("North"). Claims 4, 9-13, 15 - 19 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bibler in view of Monty, U.S. Patent 5,623,827("Monty"). Claims 4, 9-13, 17 - 18 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Richardson, U.S. Patent 5,271,219 ("Richardson"), in view of Monty and optionally DeCorso, U.S. Patent 4,112,676 ("DeCorso").

Claims 1-3 and 5-7 are allowed.

Claims 14-16 have been cancelled herein.

Claim 4 has been amended to include the limitations of "an annular burner insert ... comprising a generally J-shaped cross section forming a circumferential mounting lip around an inside diameter of the burner insert, the mounting lip oriented radially outward from a central axis of the insert" and "a separate, annular insert support ...comprising a circumferential recess formed therein around an inside diameter of the insert support and extending radially outward into the support for receiving the circumferential mounting lip of the burner insert therein, the insert support comprising at least two arcuate portions allowing assembly of the respective portions onto the burner insert and connection of the portions so that the mounting lip is retained within the circumferential recess to allow the burner insert to be removably attached to the insert support for selective replacement." None of the cited art, alone or in combination, teaches or suggests these limitations. Accordingly, claim 4, and claims 9-12 depending therefrom, are believed to be in condition for allowance.

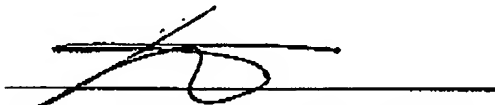
Claim 13 has been amended to include the limitations of "an annular burner insert ...comprising a generally J-shaped cross section forming a circumferential

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mounting lip around an inside diameter of the burner insert, the mounting lip oriented radially outward from a central axis of the insert" and "a separate, annular insert support ...comprising a circumferential recess formed therein around an inside diameter of the insert support and extending radially outward into the support for receiving the circumferential mounting lip of the burner insert therein, the insert support comprising at least two arcuate portions allowing assembly of the respective portions onto the burner insert and connection of the portions so that the mounting lip is retained within the circumferential recess to allow the burner insert to be removably attached to the insert support for selective replacement." None of the cited art, alone or in combination, teaches or suggests these limitations. Accordingly, claim 13, and claims 17-19 depending therefrom, are believed to be in condition for allowance.

Reconsideration of the amended application in light of the above Remarks and allowance of claims 1-7, 9-13, and 17-19 are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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